

REMARKS

PCT Rule 13.1 states that if there is more than one invention disclosed, they can be retained in a single application if they are "linked as to form a single general inventive concept."


PCT Rule 13.2 defines the linkage as one where "a special technical feature(s)" exist, and this refers to a feature(s) that define a contribution which each of the inventions, considered as a whole, makes makes the prior art. See MPEP, Annex B, Part I(a) and (b).

Here, method claims 6-11 do have a linkage to claims 1-5 and 12-14. Note, for example, the recitation in lines 4-9 of claim 1 and lines 4-9 of claim 6. The linkage is clear. The special technical feature resides in the laminate formed.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration is respectfully requested and claims 6-11 examined along with claims 1-5 and 12-14.

Respectfully submitted,
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